REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in the application. By the above amendment, claims 1, 8, 15, and 16 have been amended, claims 6, 7, 9, 17 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice, and new claims 22~28 have been added. No new matter has been introduced by virtue of the claim amendments. Examiner's reconsideration of the rejections as set forth in the Final Office Action is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

At the outset, it should be noted that no rejection has ever been asserted against claim 13. In this circumstance, Applicants will assume that claim 13 includes allowable subject matter.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 8, 11-12 and 15 stand rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,778,362 to Nanjo et al. Applicants respectfully submit that at the very minimum, Nanjo fails to disclose or suggest the inventions of claims 1 and 15. In particular, Nanjo fails to disclose or suggest a method for managing textual database including, e.g., *identifying a data type of the textual data,* much less *transcribing the textual data into corresponding semantic units of words using a recognition system for the identified data type, wherein the recognition system performs transcription by decoding the textual data using a language model and phonetic dictionary of semantic units*, as essentially claimed in claims 1 and 15.

Indeed, it is acknowledged on page 12 of the Final Office Action that Nanjo does not disclose identifying the data type of the textual data and performing transcription based on the identified data type. Thus, Nanjo it is clear that Nanjo does disclose or suggest *identifying a data type of the textual data,* much less *transcribing the textual data into corresponding semantic units of words using a recognition system for the identified data type,* as recited in claims 1 and 15.,

Moreover, Nanjo expressly states that the disclosed *"method is not dictionary-based and requires no special understanding of the language being indexed or searched"* (see, Col. 3, lines 12-15), and merely discloses generating index terms of character strings from textual data based on simple character level rules. Accordingly, Nanjo clearly does not disclose or suggest transcribing textual data into semantic units using a *recognition system that perform transcription by decoding the textual data using a language model and phonetic dictionary of semantic units,* as essentially claimed in claims 1 and 15.

Accordingly, for at least the above reasons, claims 1 and 15 (and all claims that depend from claim 1) are patentably distinct and patentable over Nanjo. Thus, withdrawal of the anticipation rejections is requested.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 7, 10 and 14 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Nanjo. Claim 7 is canceled without prejudice so the specific rejection is moot. However, with respect to claims 10 and 14, Nanjo fails to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness at least for the same reasons given above for claim 1, from which claims 10 and 14 depend.
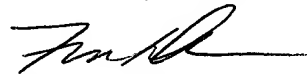
Claims 4-6, 16 and 18-21 stand rejected as being unpatentable over Nanjo in view of U.S. Patent No 5,960,447 to Holt et al. Claims 6 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice so the specific rejection is moot. However, with respect to claims 4-5 (which depend from claim 1), claim 16, and claims 19-21 (which depend from claim 16), neither Nanjo nor Holt, singularly or in combination, disclose or suggest methods or means for *identifying a data type of the textual data,* much less *transcribing the textual data into corresponding semantic units of words using a recognition system for the identified data type, wherein the recognition system performs transcription by decoding the textual data using a language model and phonetic dictionary of*

semantic units, as essentially claimed in claims 1 and 16. Indeed, <u>Nanjo</u> clearly fails to disclose these features for the reasons indicated above, and <u>Holt</u> clearly does not cure the deficiencies of <u>Nanjo</u> in this regard.

Claims 9 and 17 stand rejected as being unpatentable over <u>Nanjo</u> in view of U.S. Patent No 5,933,525 to <u>Makhoul</u> et al. Claims 9 and 17 have been canceled without prejudice, so the specific rejection is moot. In any event, <u>Makhoul</u> was cited in the Final Office Action as teaching a "language independent OCR system". This teaching of a language-independent system is in <u>stark contrast to, and teaches away from</u>, the claimed inventions in which textual data is transcribed into corresponding semantic units of words using a recognition system for the identified data type, wherein the recognition system performs transcription by decoding the textual data using a language model and phonetic dictionary of semantic units.

Therefore, withdrawal of the above obviousness rejections is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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